

ENDLESS OPPORTUNITIES

LAST MONTH AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, THANKSGIVING



RON CROSS
Commission Chairman

The article last month brought a number of varied responses. Many agreed; several disagreed, but the surprising thing was that many did not seem to understand that my comments were in response to the survey printed in the Wall Street Journal. The survey indicated that the country is vastly divided along political lines and that extends to other parts of our daily lives. That feeling was certainly verified in the reactions of the citizens that voiced their opinions on the article. Most were supportive, but several took major issue with the article. Some were respectful; some were not respectful; most were candid; and some, as you would expect, just resorted to name calling.

A common thread among those that disliked the article was that I should not be expressing my personal opinion in the mailer. Well, maybe that is true, but my views usually coincide with the feeling of our conservative county. But, apparently, some do not and will not agree. That is one of the things that remain great about our country; the ability to disagree, hopefully respectfully. Actually, almost everything you read or hear is someone's personal opinion. So-called factual reporting usually has a personal slant and all editorials are personal opinions. Everything expressed about last month's article was someone's personal opinion. Have you thought about that? Enough said, let's talk about what is right about our country.

Syndicated columnist, Andy Rooney, wrote an article over twenty years ago entitled "Pointing out what is right with America". He prefaced it by saying that columnists make a living pointing out things that are wrong with the country because you cannot make any money writing about what is right. But he did it anyway.

He began by saying that we choose our leaders, and that is a good thing. Secondly, he said that while crime gets the headlines, the majority of Americans

are law abiding citizens and even the majority pays their taxes. He went on to say that even though we complain about our educational system, most of our young people get a good education as long as they want to pursue it.

Americans eat better than any country in the world according to Rooney, and there are more good lawyers than bad. Our government is not oppressive and our military people are good, and we do not have to worry about a South American-style coup.

Even twenty five years ago, Rooney admitted that people are suspicious of journalists, but as a rule most are driven with a desire to learn and print the truth in a media form that is thankfully free of government interference.

His final thoughts were that when the British colonized much of the world, their interest was

money. But today our actions in world affairs have been motivated not by greed but by a desire to do the right thing. He feels that it is not us against the government, but we are the government. The number of nuts that belong to some quasi anti-

government militia are vastly outnumbered by the people that meet regularly at various civic clubs in every city in America, none of whom would dream of blowing up any part of the country they love.

I enjoyed rereading Rooney's article because you see so little of that kind of commentary today, but I felt he left out the most important item, and that is religious freedom. The freedom to worship and observe holidays is so important to the lives of Americans and makes our lives meaningful. We are approaching the biggest holiday season with the celebration of Thanksgiving and Christmas.

It is so very easy to be caught up in what is wrong with our country when we have so very much to be thankful for on the local level. Let's take a closer look at what all Columbia County has to be thankful for.

"Pointing out what is right with America..."

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- Both the Riverwatch Parkway extension and the widening of Washington Road are scheduled to be finished by the end of the year.
- We have completed the installation of some much needed traffic signals at the intersections of William Few & Chamblin Road; Lewiston Road and Bluegrass Trail; Washington Road and Mullins Colony to assist with traffic flow.
- The Plaza at Evans Towne Center Park is well underway with Phase 1 set to open by mid-2018.
- Mullins Colony recently celebrated the grand opening of their anchor store, Belk.

- We have many General Obligation Bond (G.O. Bond) projects in the design phase. Some of those projects include the Performing Arts Center, Patriots Park expansion, Gateway Park, and Lakeside Park.

Our standard of living is unequalled in the world, and so much was handed to us by our forefathers and mothers. Let's take time to pause from the chaos and stress of the day, and political disarray, to be truly thankful that we live and can enjoy what is right in this country and our county. I, along with elected officials and county staff, would like to wish you and your family a happy and healthy holiday season.

CAST YOUR VOTE ONLINE FOR COMMUNITY PRIDE DESIGN AWARDS 2017

The County invites you to cast your vote for the *Community Pride Design Awards 2017*. Please go online to www.columbiacountyga.gov and click on **QUICK LINKS**, then **2017 Community Design Awards Survey** and select your favorite choices. Complete by November 27.

If you have any questions, please call the Planning Department at **706.868.3400**.

www.columbiacountyga.gov

QUICK LINKS

**2017 Community
Design Awards Survey**

VOTE!



COLUMBIA COUNTY SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS FOR NOVEMBER-DECEMBER

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETINGS

Building A Auditorium,
630 Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans, GA
Tuesdays, November 7th and 21st, 6:00pm
Tuesdays, December 5th and 19th, 6:00pm

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE MEETINGS

MANAGEMENT & INTERNAL SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT & ENGINEERING SERVICES

Building A Auditorium,
630 Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans, GA
Tuesday, November 14th, 8:30am

PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES AND COMMUNITY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Appling Courthouse, Appling, GA
Tuesday, November 28th, 8:30am

MANAGEMENT & INTERNAL SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT & ENGINEERING SERVICES PUBLIC WORKS SERVICES AND COMMUNITY AND EMERGENCY SERVICES

Building A Auditorium,
630 Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans, GA
Tuesday, December 12th, 8:30am

COLUMBIA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION MEETINGS

Building A Auditorium,
630 Ronald Reagan Drive, Evans, GA
Thursdays November 2nd and 16th, 6:00pm
Thursdays December 7th and 21st, 6:00pm

VISIT US TODAY! www.ColumbiaCountyGa.gov



COLUMBIA COUNTY SHERIFF'S CORNER

The Columbia County Sheriff's Office has discovered a pizza order scam. How the scam works is local consumers place orders through an online app (i.e. Pizza Mania) or through a website (i.e. www.pizzalove.me.pn). The app or website gives instructions to its users for them to refer the app to their friends in order to receive deals and discounts from a local pizza establishment (i.e. Domino's Pizza, Pizza Hut, Papa John's). The consumer places their order through the app which the order is then placed, by the app, using the pizza establishments online order feature. The consumer then receives their order from the establishment. What has been discovered is the operators of the app are placing the online orders using stolen credit card numbers that were obtained, more than likely, through data breaches. The operators of the app are receiving the payment from the consumer and retaining the funds for themselves, whereas the account holder of the stolen credit card number absorbs the cost of the food, unknowing at the time to the establishment or the consumer. The operators of the app may also try to increase the sense of urgency



to entice consumers by posting that a certain deal or discount is "available only for a limited time" or for the consumer to "act now."

It should be noted that this type of scam is not only designed for pizza establishments but there are apps and websites available that advertise electronics and various other items of value at discounted rates. Consumers should verify with a specific store, restaurant, or establishment that they are in fact participating in the deal prior to using a third party website or app. Another red flag is that one of the scam websites involved in a recent case "www.pizzalove.me.pn" contained the domain name

"me.pn" which is based out of Pitcairn Islands, located in the South Pacific Ocean. It's important to know that anytime a website is operating a business, that contains an out of country domain name, should be used with caution and is indicative of an international scam.

If a citizen ever suspects a business or service may be involved in a scam the Sheriff's Office is always available to investigate any business, online or local, for validation.



Columbia County Music Series

Simon & Jacques

Sunday, November 5

4:00 pm

Jabez S. Hardin PAC at Columbia County Library

Hear the beautiful resonance created by combining two of the most beloved musical instruments: cello and guitar.

General admission tickets: \$24
Student/military: \$10 at the door



706.826.4705 | SOAugusta.org



NOVEMBER-DECEMBER 2017

Date	Time	Program	Branch	Description
Mon, Wed, Thurs through 11/16	10:15 AM	Two-dollers Class	Evans Library	A fun program to learn and practice new & engaging ways of helping your child develop early literacy skills! Registration required.
Mon, Wed, Thurs through 11/16	11 AM	Preschool Class	Evans Library	Join us each week for this fun program to learn and practice new & engaging ways of helping your child develop early literacy skills!
Tues	10:30 AM	Child Enrichment	Harlem Library	Each week we will read stories and do crafts geared to help children fall in love with reading.
Tues through 11/14	10:30 AM	Baby & Me	Euchee Ck Library	This special class is designed especially for babies under two.
Tues through 12/19	10:30 AM	ESL	Evans Library	This class is free and open to adults whose first language is not English. Come and practice your conversational English with us!
Tues through 11/14	4:15 PM	Child Enrichment	Euchee Ck Library	Stories, songs, dancing and the coolest crafts around. Registration required.
Wed through 11/15	10:30 AM	Child Enrichment	Euchee Ck Library	Stories, songs, dancing and the coolest crafts around. Registration required.
Thurs through 11/16	4:30 PM	Afternoon Adventures Class	Evans Library	New & engaging ways to develop early literacy skills! Breaks to plan and regroup for upcoming sessions. Call 706-447-7657 for dates.
Wed, November 1, 2017	12 PM	Doodle Hour Adult Coloring	Evans Library	You've seen the trend, now try it! Join us for a relaxing hour of coloring.
Wed, November 1, 2017	5-7 PM	NaNoWriMo Kickoff Reception	Evans Library Café	Join us in the café to learn about National Novel Writers Month (NaNoWriMo) and take the challenge to write a novel in November!
Thurs, November 2, 2017	10:30 AM-12 PM	Estate Planning	Evans Library	Learn keys to plan for your retirement and on. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Thurs, November 2, 2017	3:30 PM	Gaming at the Library	Evans Library	Teens can take a break and play video and board games.
Thurs, November 2, 2017	5:30-7:30 PM	Fiber Arts Craft & Chat	Evans Library	This group is open to all crafters: crochet, knit, loom, cross stitch, etc. Open to people who want to learn as well as those already crafty.
Sun, November 5, 2017	2-5 PM	NaNoWriMo Meet Up	Evans Library Café	Join us every Sunday in November to write and workshop with NaNoWriMo participants.
Mon, November 6, 2017	10 AM-12 PM	Winter Birding	Evans Library	Learn about the birds you will see in our area in the winter. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Mon, November 6, 2017	4-5:30 PM	Young Makers Program	Evans Library	Geared especially for children ages 8-12. Kids will learn about science, engineering, and design with hands-on experiences.
Mon, November 6, 2017	6:30 PM	Doodle Hour Adult Coloring	Evans Library	You've seen the trend, now try it! Join us for a relaxing hour of coloring.
Tues, November 7, 21, & 28	5:30-7:30 PM	Chess: Parts 1, 2, & 3	Evans Library	Join us for this three-part chess class including a tournament in the last session. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Wed, November 8, 2017	10 AM	Gadgets & Gifts	Harlem Library	Learn about tech gifts for everyone on your list! Call 706-650-5009 to register.
Wed, November 8, 2017	1:30-3:30 PM	Internet Shopping	Harlem Library	Learn to get great deals safely on the internet. Call 706-650-5009 to register.
Thurs, November 9, 2017	4-8 PM	Veteran's Day Program	Evans Library	Join us for a special presentation from Vietnam veterans.
Thurs, November 9, 2017	4 PM	Teen Advisory Board	Evans Library	Help us decide what programs to offer this year while getting volunteer credit. Now with snacks!
Thurs, November 9, 2017	6-7:30 PM	Adult Guitar Club	Evans Library	Meet to discuss and share guitar tips, techniques, advice, etc.
Fri, November 10, 2017	All Day	Libraries Closed for Veteran's Day	All Branches	All Columbia Libraries will be closed November 10 in honor of Veteran's Day.
Sat, November 11, 2017	9 AM-1 PM	Storybook Walk	Harlem Library	Hosted by library and Harlem Merchants Association, the storybook walk will include a walk around Harlem, starting at the new Harlem Library, down to Red Oak Manor. Pages of the books will be placed in storefront windows, and as you walk, you will complete the book.
Sun, November 12, 2017	2-5 PM	NaNoWriMo Meet Up	Evans Library Café	Join us every Sunday in November to write and workshop with NaNoWriMo participants.
Mon, November 13, 2017	3 PM	Genealogy Club	Evans Library	Join us to learn the basics then branch out to find your roots!
November 13, 14 & 16, 2017	5:30-7:30 PM	AARP Driver Safety Classes	Evans Library	Registration will be through AARP. Please call 706-228-4467 after 7 PM. There is a cost for workbook.
Mon, November 13, 2017	7 PM	Pub Fiction	Pizza Central	This laid-back book club meets at Pizza Central in Evans.
Tues, November 14, 2017	4 PM	Teen Guitar Class	Evans Library	Guitar instructions. Up to 6 guitars available for use, cannot be taken home. Ages 11-18. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Tues, November 14, 2017	5:30 PM	Cord Cutting	Harlem Library	Learn to cut the cord with your cable provider with smart technology tips. Call 706-650-5009 to register.
Thurs, November 16, 2017	11:30 AM	Brown Bag Book Discussion	Evans Library	The November selection is <i>Beyond Recall</i> by Robert Goddard.
Fri, November 17, 2017	10 AM- 12 PM	Gadgets & Gifts	Evans Library	Learn about tech gifts for everyone on your list! Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Fri, November 17, 2017	1:30-3:30 PM	Internet Shopping	Evans Library	Learn to get great deals safely on the internet. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Sun, November 19, 2017	2-5 PM	NaNoWriMo Meet Up	Evans Library Café	Join us every Sunday in November to write and workshop with NaNoWriMo participants.
Mon, November 20, 2017	4-5:30 PM	Teen Makerspace	Evans Library	Teens 13-18 use CAD software, development software, 3D scanner & printer, soldering equipment, and general electronics tools.
Mon, November 20, 2017	6:30 PM	Monday Night Book Discussion	Evans Library	The November selection is <i>At the Edge of the Orchard</i> by Tracy Chevalier.
Thurs-Sun, November 23-26	All Day	Libraries Closed for Thanksgiving	All Branches	All Columbia County Libraries are closed for Thanksgiving.
Mon, November 27, 2017	4-7:30 PM	Open Sewing Hour	Evans Library	Bring your sewing projects and use our machines.
Tues, November 28, 2017	4 PM	Teen Guitar Club	Evans Library	Meet to discuss and share guitar tips, techniques, advice, etc. Ages 11 to 18.
Thurs, November 30, 2017	5:30-7:30 PM	Cord Cutting	Evans Library	Learn to cut the cord with your cable provider with smart technology tips. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Thurs, November 30, 2017	6 PM	Author Visit with Deron Hicks	Evans Library Café	Children's author of <i>The Van Gogh Deception</i> and mysteries infused with art, literature, and history for middle grade readers.
Fri, December 1, 2017	10 AM-12 PM	Genealogy 101	Evans Library	Learn the basics of genealogy and learn to use resources at the library. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Fri, December 1, 2017	11 AM	Sensory Class	Evans Library	Interactive and inclusive literacy-focused class to help strengthen motor, social, and cognitive skills in children of all ages and abilities. Offered to special needs groups as well. Registration required.
Sun, December 3, 2017	2:30-4:30 PM	Local Author Group Therapy	Evans Library	Are you a current or aspiring author? Do you need tips, tricks, or just venting about your work? Join us for this fun and supportive group.
Mon, December 4, 2017	4-5:30 PM	Young Makers Program	Evans Library	Geared especially for children ages 8-12. Kids will learn about science, engineering, and design with hands-on experiences.
Mon, December 4, 2017	4:30 PM	Super Novas Club	Euchee Ck Library	Join us for a Christmas party. Bring a snack to share!
Mon, December 4, 2017	6:30-7:30 PM	Doodle Hour Adult Coloring	Evans Library	You've seen the trend, now try it! Join us for a relaxing hour of coloring.
Tues, December 5, 2017	5:30 PM	Christmas Ornament Craft	Harlem Library	Join us to make your own Christmas ornaments. Call 706-650-5009 to register.
Wed, December 6, 2017	12-1 PM	Doodle Hour Adult Coloring	Evans Library	You've seen the trend, now try it! Join us for a relaxing hour of coloring.
Thurs, December 7, 2017	3:30 PM-5 PM	Winter Workshop Drop In	Evans Library	Children can drop in for winter crafts and hot chocolate!
Thurs, December 7, 2017	3:30-5:30 PM	Gaming at the Library	Evans Library	Teens can take a break and play video and board games.
Thurs, December 7, 2017	5:30-7:30 PM	Fiber Arts Craft & Chat	Evans Library	This group is open to all crafters: crochet, knit, loom, cross stitch, etc. Open to people who want to learn as well as those already crafty.

For a complete list of library programs, please visit www.gchrl.org

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER 2017

Date	Time	Program	Branch	Description
Sat, December 9, 2017	10 AM	Keep Calm and Coupon On	Euchee Ck Library	Have you wondered about saving money with coupons? Join this fun group to share tips and compare ideas.
Mon, December 11, 2017	3 PM	Genealogy Club	Evans Library	Join us to learn the basics then branch out to find your roots!
Mon, December 11, 2017	5:30-7:30 PM	Basic Animation	Evans Library	Fun intro to computer programming using Scratch to create animations and interactive stories. Learning Scratch is a stepping stone to making games! Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Mon, December 11, 2017	5:30 PM	Harry Potter Movie Night	Evans Library	Join us for a movie and popcorn the evening before our annual Harry Potter party!
Mon, December 11, 2017	5:30 PM	Family Movie Night	Euchee Ck Library	Join us for movie fun and light refreshments for the whole family.
Mon, December 11, 2017	7-9 PM	Pub Fiction	Pizza Central	Join us for a new kind of book club! The December selection is <i>A Dog's Purpose</i> by W. Bruce Cameron.
Tues, December 12, 2017	4 PM	Teen Guitar Class	Evans Library	Guitar instructions. Up to 6 guitars available for use, cannot be taken home. Ages 11-18. Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Tues, December 12, 2017	5:30 PM	Introduction to Facebook	Harlem Library	Learn the basics of using Facebook safely. Call 706-650-5009 to register.
Tues, December 12, 2017	6 PM	Annual Harry Potter Party	Evans Library	All little wizards and witches can have a magical time at our annual Harry Potter party.
Wed, December 13, 2017	10 AM-12 PM	Internet Shopping	Evans Library	Learn to get great deals safely on the internet. Call 706-650-5009 to register.
Wed, December 13, 2017	1:30-3:30 PM	Ebay 101	Evans Library	Basics of both buying and selling items on the site and how to fine tune to your personal needs. Call 706-863-1946 to register.
Thurs, December 14, 2017	1 PM	Columbia Cty Genealogical Society	Euchee Ck Library	Whether you're an experienced genealogist or just learning to find your roots, this club has something for everyone.
Thurs, December 14, 2017	4 PM	Teen Advisory Board	Evans Library	Help us decide what programs to offer this year while getting volunteer credit. Now with snacks!
Thurs, December 14, 2017	6 PM	Adult Guitar Club	Evans Library	Meet to discuss and share guitar tips, techniques, advice, etc.
Mon, December 18, 2017	11 AM	Stories & Crafts with Morris Museum	Evans Library	Our friends from the Morris Museum will lead us through stories, songs, and crafts!
Mon, December 18, 2017	4-5:30 PM	Teen Makerspace	Evans Library	Teens 13-18 use CAD software, development software, 3D scanner & printer, soldering equipment, and general electronics tools.
Tues, December 19, 2017	5:30 PM	Family Movie Night	Evans Library	Join us for movie fun and light refreshments for the whole family.
Wed, December 20, 2017	10 AM-12 PM	Gadgets & Gifts	Evans Library	Learn about tech gifts for everyone on your list! Call 706-863-1946 ext 4 to register.
Wed, December 20, 2017	1:30-3:30 PM	Gadget Help with Alex	Evans Library	Do you have a new gadget that you can't figure out? Drop in to have our tech guru Alex show you the basics.
Thurs, December 21, 2017	11 AM	Adult Time Out	Euchee Ck Library	Making Magazine Christmas Trees. Bring a side dish or dessert to share.
Thurs, December 21, 2017	11:30 AM-1:30 PM	Brown Bag Book Planning Party	Evans Library	Bring you book club suggestions for 2018.
Thurs, December 21, 2017	4 PM	Harlem Book Club	Harlem Library	Join us for our annual book selection party, and we'll pick our 2018 titles.
Sat-Tues, December 23-26	All Day	Columbia County Libraries Closed	All Branches	All Columbia County Libraries are closed for Christmas.
Thurs, December 28, 2017	4-5:30 PM	Teen Makerspace	Evans Library	Teens 13-18 use CAD software, development software, 3D scanner & printer, soldering equipment, and general electronics tools.
Sun, December 31-Mon, Jan 1	All Day	Columbia County Libraries Closed	All Branches	All Columbia County Libraries are closed for New Years.

All programs are subject to change. Call your local branch for details. Evans: 706-863-1946 Euchee Ck: 706-556-0594 Harlem: 706-556-9795



FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT WWW.AUGUSTAAMUSEMENTS.COM OR CALL 706-726-0366
ALL SHOWS BEGIN AT 7:30 EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE NOTED

For a complete list of library programs, please visit www.gchrl.org

UPCOMING EVENTS:

UNIVERSAL EVENTS & DEEP RED PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS

THE 1ST ANNUAL C.S.R.A. VETERANS DAY TRIBUTE CONCERT



LIVE PERFORMANCES BY:
SHOOTER JENNINGS
BETH SPANGLER / JOHNNY RODRIGUEZ
RACHEL LYNN & JORDAN BROWER
W/SPECIAL GUEST HOST **JAY JEFFERIES**

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 11th

LADY ANTEBELLUM PAVILION
7016 EVANS TOWN CENTER BLVD. EVANS, GA.

POWERED BY:

FOX 54 WFXG, Life, ClubCar, Starbucks, AUGUSTA WARRIOR PROJECT

PORTION OF THE PROCEEDS DONATED TO:

TICKETS ON SALE NOW!!
ONLINE VISIT FRESHTIX.COM OR PURCHASE TICKETS AT ANY SECURITY FEDERAL BANK

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THE ULTIMATE
BUDDY HOLLY
EXPERIENCE

Friday, January 12, 2018

MOON MOUSE A SPACE ODYSSEY



Lightwire

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2018
at 3:30P.M. AND 7:30 p.m.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT WWW.AUGUSTAAMUSEMENTS.COM OR CALL 706-726-0366
ALL SHOWS BEGIN AT 7:30 EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE NOTED

Come and see...



*The Lights at
Evans Towne Center Park*

december 1-january 1

**TOYS FOR TOTS
TOY SHOPPE
TOWNE CENTER**

- *FREE FAMILY MOVIE NIGHTS
- *FREE SANTA PHOTOS
- *FREE TRAIN RIDES
- *CRAFT VENDOR VILLAGE
- *S'MORES
- LETTERS TO SANTA
- FREE WALK THROUGH LIGHTING DISPLAY
- *COOKIES WITH MRS. CLAUS
- TOYS FOR TOTS DONATION CENTER
- *CHARACTER APPEARANCES
- *Please check site below for dates and times

FACEBOOK.COM/COLUMBIACOUNTYEVENTS

VISIT US TODAY! www.ColumbiaCountyGa.gov